



● ROUTINE

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DIST 4 JUNE 1973

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1. **COMMENT:** **PRESS OF 30 MAY 1973** REPORTED THAT PRESIDENT SALVADOR **ALLENDE** HAD MET WITH THE COUNCIL OF GENERALS OF THE CARABINEROS (NATIONAL UNIFORMED POLICE) DURING THE AFTERNOON OF 29 MAY. THE MEETING WAS DESCRIBED AS 4 NORMAL SEMI-ANNUAL OCCURRENCE BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND THE GENERALS.

2. PRESIDENT ALLENDE CALLED THE CARABINERO GENERALS TO 4 MEETING IN THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE ON 29 MAY IN ORDER TO INFORM

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THEM OF HIS DISSATISFACTION WITH THE POOR PERFORMANCE OF THE CARABINEROS IN MAINTAINING PUBLIC ORDER. ALLENDE CLAIMED THAT THE CARABINEROS WERE ACTING PASSIVELY AND NOT HELPING THE GOVERNMENT TO CONTROL OR DISCOURAGE DEMONSTRATIONS. THE PRESIDENT ADDED THAT PUBLIC ORDER MUST BE MAINTAINED AND THAT HE WAS PERSONALLY ORDERING THE POLICE TO TAKE EFFECTIVE ACTION AGAINST DEMONSTRATORS, WHETHER THEY BE GOVERNMENT OR OPPOSITION SUPPORTERS.

3. THE GENERALS PRESENT POINTED OUT TO ALLENDE THAT LOW MORALE WITHIN THE CARABINERO RANKS STEMMING FROM INADEQUATE SALARIES AND FOOD SHORTAGES WAS AFFECTING THE WORK OF THE CARABINEROS. COMMENT: [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] REPORTED UNREST WITHIN THE CARABINERO CORPS AS A RESULT OF LOW SALARIES AND FOOD SHORTAGES.)

4. THE GENERALS ALSO POINTED OUT TO ALLENDE THAT THE CARABINEROS HAVE BEEN RESTRICTED FROM FULFILLING THEIR NORMAL ROLES FOR ALMOST THREE YEARS; E.G., THEY HAVE BEEN ORDERED NOT TO INTERFERE WITH ILLEGAL TAKEOVERS OF PROPERTIES. THE GENERALS ADVISED THE PRESIDENT THAT IF ORDERS WERE NOW GIVEN TO ACT

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HARSHLY AGAINST ANY VIOLATIONS OF PUBLIC ORDER, THE CARABINEROS ON THE STREETS WOULD TEND TO ACT AGAINST GOVERNMENT SUPPORTERS RATHER THAN OPPOSITION SUPPORTERS. ALLENDE RESPONDED THAT DISCIPLINE MUST BE INSTILLED IN THE RANKS AND THAT HIS ORDERS TO MAINTAIN PUBLIC ORDER MUST BE FOLLOWED, DESPITE THE CONSEQUENCES.

5. [REDACTED]

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